

William J. Morrow

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PERFECTION

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HORSEMANSHIP,

-BY-

PROFESSOR A. J. MORROW,

OF BOSANQUET.

WATFORD

"ADVOCATE-ADVISER" STEAM PRINTING AND PUBLISHING HOUSE, MAIN STREET.

HORSEMANSHIP

PERFECTION IN HORSEMANSHIP.

— BY —

PROFESSOR A. J. MORROW,
Of Bosanquet.

The first remark I wish to make is that I may be distinctly understood in what I am about to write, which I am persuaded, beyond a doubt, will prove a crowning success, if not deviated from.

It is in regard to elevating the suffering of man and beast, and hastening the much needed reform, in the obscure position which many of my fellow-mortals are occupying, with their noblest servant the horse.

CARESSING THE HORSE.

There are no two horses with habits and dispositions precisely alike; yet whilst there are no two alike, there are certain things that affect all horses alike. When you pat and caress the horse, you say to him that whatever he is doing is right. You have only to get the horse to kick at you, and then caress him for it, and he will do it again when you ask him, for he thinks that it is right, and what you want him to do; so never caress the horse until he has done what you want him, and then never fail to caress and encourage him. You cannot teach the horse a single word of the English language, or any other language, without a sign. That is, you must either show him, or force his body to move. A forced move of the horse's body is a sign to him, and is equivalent in his mind to a willing move, if you only assure him by caressing immediately afterwards, that he has done what you wanted him to do.

OBEEDIENCE TO THE WORD OF COMMAND.

From the time you commence to educate the horse until you have his education completed, you must not ask him to do anything unless you are in a position to force obedience, so that you can prove satisfactorily to his mind, that he must obey the word of command, and cannot help himself. When he has perfectly obeyed the word without being forced, then do not fail to caress him immediately, for this, while it assures him of the important fact, that what he has done is right, it also proves to him that you are his best friend. That moment he is yours, and he will love you, and take delight in obeying you.

HE LOVES AND TAKES DELIGHT IN OBEYING YOU.

Why does he love you, and take delight in obeying you? Simply because you have occupied the position that you forced obedience, and he could not help himself; then, after he perfectly obeyed the word of command, you immediately caressed him, which proved to him that you were his best friend.

SIGN OF SUBMISSION.

The sign of a horse having yielded, and become willing to do what you ask him submissively, is that he will relax the muscles of every part of his body.

CONTROL THE MOUTH.

Please take notice of what you are reading, and bear in mind that all of my system of horsemanship depends alone upon the important fact, that when you control the horse's mouth you control his whole body. All you have to do, is to compel the horse to relax the muscles of his mouth, and quit fighting the bit, then his whole body is compelled to yield to the resistless power of the bit, and his educator. I care not what bad habit the horse may have formed, I will place you in a position that you will compel him to give it up, and obey you perfectly. That is by using the World's Excelsior Extra Leverage Bit. This is a bit which I have invented, which perfectly accomplishes the end designed, without bruising or lacerating his mouth. A horse may drive on ever so slack a rein, ordinarily, but do not be deceived, whenever he attempts to baulk, kick, run away, shy or bolt, you have no control over his mouth, and he knows full well that he can do almost as he pleases, which is too often the case, and results in the loss of the poor unenlightened teamster's life.

RELAX THE MUSCLES OF THE MOUTH.

My reader, please take notice, all that you want to have the horse under your complete control under all circumstances, is to bear in mind what is here written, or your ever lasting benefit, and do not vary from it, and I will place you in a position while you are endeavoring to educate the horse, that you can compel him to relax the muscles of his mouth. Then he will obey you in whatever way the rein and word of command direct him, persuaded in his own mind that he is compelled to obey the rein and word of command, and cannot help himself. Now, when he does this perfectly, do not fail to caress him for it.

TO HALTER BREAK THE COLT.

In the first place prepare yourself with a rope long enough to reach from his tail to his head, then tie to the manger. Now he is in a position that he cannot hurt himself, or you. Whatever object will alarm him the most is the best. Commence slashing them around his heels and head, to make him pull back fiercely; but, while trying to alarm him and make him pull back, do not say whoa or get up, but make all the noise you can. You must not cease this performance until the horse is perfectly persuaded that he cannot pull hard enough to break the halter, and also, that neither you or any object will hurt him. When he stands perfectly quiet and careless, with all of his muscles relaxed, then walk up and caress him, pronouncing whoa! distinctly. Now the colt has learned the sad mistake that he was laboring under, to suppose he could break the halter, or that any object, or you, would hurt him.

THE OLD HORSE.

You must occupy the same position with the old horse that is a halter breaker, and afraid of a buffalo robe or umbrella, or any other object, while being tied. All the difference that you will see in them is, that it will take you longer to persuade him of the great mistake that he has been laboring under, to suppose that he could break the halter, or that any object, or you, would hurt him while being tied. You have now persuaded them, satisfactorily to their minds, that to get protection they must stand perfectly quiet, and not even attempt to tighten on the halter, then they get protection, and then only.

To rid the horse of fear of buffalo robes, umbrellas, or other objects when you halter break him, perfectly, you accomplish this at the same time effectively.

To make the horse or colt stand his foot up to you by the word of command, and stand perfectly quiet while being shod.—First put my bit in his mouth, and then take him out in the yard, place your left hand on the rein over his back, and slap him under the flank to make him kick or bound away. If he either kicks or moves, then tell him he must not, by giving him a good whoa! with the bit. This must be repeated until he stands perfectly quiet, then caress

him for it, and say whoa. Reach for his foot and say lift—not lift up—but lift. If he even attempts to kick or move, tell him that he must not, by giving him a good whoa with the bit.

To make a horse stand quiet while being cleaned, occupy the same position as in shoeing, only leave him in the stall. Commence combing roughly, and if he will not stand still, tell him he must or die.

A horse that wont stand still and relax the muscles of his tail and let you put the crupper under; place your left hand on the check rein over his back, and, with the other hand, lift his tail roughly; if he wont relax the muscles and stand still, tell him he must or die, then if he would sooner obey than die, caress him immediately, which proves to him that you are his best friend, when he obeys you, but an instrument of death when he does not obey.

To ride a colt or horse.—This is one thing that does not require to be explained in the book, it will be explained in the lesson.

To break a colt to work.—You cannot break any colt perfectly with another horse hitched along with him, you must take him alone. Harness your colt, hitch the tugs to the whiffletree, hitch a chain to it, and to a light log; get two ironwood poles, about the size of your wrist, bore augur holes two inches from the but end of each, run a strap through the holes in the poles and through the breast strap rings, and buckle up tight; run a string through the hooks on the ends of the whiffletree and then around the poles to keep them from spreading too wide, the poles must extend six feet behind his heels; hitch the reins to the bit and leave them out of the rings of the harness; and with whip and reins in your hand, you are prepared to make the colt do what you ask him.

To make a horse drive perfectly safe in single harness, so that if the breeching breaks he will stop without being told, for protection, instead of running away, also requires no explanation in the book.

To stop a horse from kicking while in harness, requires no explanation in the book.

To compel a horse to stop baulking, requires no explanation in the book.

To make your horses stand perfectly quiet while you are getting into the vehicle or wagon, requires no explanation in the book.

A bolting or shying horse.—To make a horse so that he will scarcely notice an object, let alone shy from it, requires no explanation in the book.

To stop a horse hugging the rein under his tail, and switching tail, requires no explanation in the book.

To stop a horse from kicking at you in the stable.—Take a straight bit, keep it in his mouth with a piece of rope over his head; hitch a pair of plow lines to the bit and drive a nail for each line just behind the stall to hang them on. You are now in a position to make him stop kicking at you, or crowding while you enter the stall. The first time you enter the stable commence breaking him, by taking the lines in your hands, and stick or brush to shove between his hind legs to make him kick at you, then tell him he must not by using the bit, and say whoa. When you cannot make him kick any more, and he stands perfectly still, with all the fight out of his muscles, walk up and caress him immediately.

A PLOW TEAM.—First get a half inch strap long enough to reach around the off horse's nose, run it through the cheek piece of his bridle, put one on the nigh horse the same way. Whatever width you want the horses to walk tie with a cord to these straps, now hitch a strap to the one on the off horse's nose run it between his forward legs over the belly band, to the nigh horse's whiffletree and tie. Put an extra line on the nigh horse and you are ready to make a perfect plow team of your horses.

A horse that dances and frets while in harness, requires no explanation in book.

A horse that crowds in to tongue of wagon and turns his head out, requires no explanation in book.

To make a horse hold his head in model position requires no explanation in book.

To make a horse come to you by word of command and by crack of whip:—First, get a long whip, and then take the horse to the shed or yard and pull off his bridle and commence slashing him around the hind legs, pronouncing the word "this way" until he turns facing you, then caress him for it, then spring back, crack whip on ground saying "this way," and if he says he wont by going to the corner, tell him he must, by slashing him around his hind legs until he turns and follows right after you, then caress him.

The reason why a horse rubs the hair off his tail and mane, is because he is troubled with dandruff. To remove this take the thick part of soft soap, rub hard and quick. Take a pail of rain water and rinse clean, repeat every other day for three or four times. If he still rubs the tail it is because he is troubled with pin worms. To remove this obstacle, take a half pot wormwood, fill pot with water, boil down to one pint, take a syringe and enter in horse no less than a foot, repeat every other day for a week, and if you have not accomplished the end designed, it is because you did not insert the syringe far enough.

To stop a horse kicking at stall, requires no explanation in book.

To stop a horse pawing in stall, this requires no explanation in book.

To tell a cow that she must not give a pail of milk, and then kick it over, requires no explanation in book.

To prove satisfactory to a horse, cow, bull or sheep, that they must not and can not jump even three rails of a fence, requires no explanation in book.

To STOP OVER-REACHING.—The reason a horse over reaches is because his hind legs are more active than his forward legs. To stop him all you will have to do, in an extreme case is to have his shoes one-third heavier behind than in front, and that will equalize his limbs, if he is only a partial over-reacher he will not require so much.

To STOP A HORSE INTERFERING.—This is also natural to a horse. In an extreme case all that you will have to do, is to have his shoes one-third heavier on the inside, and also the inside caulk one-third longer, this will perfectly stop him of interfering. If he is only a partial interferer he wont require so much.

To have the horse shod perfectly sharp yet so that he cannot caulk himself and also the caulk will stop sharp as long as the best steel caulk, all that you will have to do is to keep the heel caulk perfectly dull, and the toe perfectly sharp. Now to harden the toe caulk so as that it will keep sharp, and wont wear out any sooner than a steel caulk, take a handful of salt, lay it on a board and when the toe-caulk is sharpened, and shoe ready to nail on, put toe caulk in the fire bring to a welding heat and hold in the salt for 15 seconds, then throw it in a tub of cold water and it is all right.

Fitting the shoe hot is an absurd practice, and you must not allow it to be done. It causes an unhealthy secretion of the shell of the foot and it becomes hard, dry and brittle, and results in contraction.

Rasping the whole surface of the hoof for the purpose of making it look nice and smooth, you must not allow to be done. Nature has provided a bark covering for the hoof to prevent too rapid evaporation of the moisture, and if this bark covering is removed it will cause it to become dry and brittle.

HIGH HEeled SHOES are also an absurd and unenlightened thing for any man to put on. Do not let it be done, for it raises the frog of the foot from its natural position and causes inflammation to enter immediately, and it becomes dry and hard and crumbly, and results in contraction.

A horse that has contracted feet will present a long narrow appearance of foot, hollow on the bottom and there will be a furrow around it, just below the hair, also the heel will be curved inward toward the frog. If you do not vary from what I am about to write I will enable you to have a perfectly natural foot on your horse in one year and he will lose his lameness in three shoeings. Pare the whole frog of his foot down until it appears reddish and the blood appears all over the frog like a very small sweat. Oh my, my, my, dear me! land save us! You are going to ruin your horse. Never mind Mr. blacksmith, I am paying you for it, now pare the shell of the foot down level with the frog, with the exception of the thickness of a five cent piece. Now the foot is ready for the shoe. To prepare the shoe, first I will refer you to some of the injuries done by shoeing as ordinarily practiced. Examine if you please the ordinary shoe used on all occasions, and upon all forms of feet. place a square across the top of the shoe over the heels and you will find the shoe beveled from without inward. When such a shoe is nailed to the foot it presents a resistance to the natural expansion of the foot, it being impossible for the heels to expand up these inclined planes, hence it has a resistable tendency to force the heels inward, and the foot gradually becomes contracted. This is a natural result and cannot be denied. Just reverse this, and you are right. Place the square on top across the heels. If you can run the nail of your finger easily between the shoe and the square on the out side, it is right. You must not have heels of the shoe spread behind as is always the practice; turn the heels in to fit the shell of the foot; have the heels of the shoe one quarter of an inch wider than the shell at the heel, and no wider, and also have the shoe one quarter of an inch longer and no more. While curing contracted feet, the horse must be shod every month for five or six shoeings, when you are turning the heels of the shoes do not turn them gradually but square down. The shoe is ready now for nailing on, put four nails in one side and two in the other and never any more in any horse's foot, reversing the number of nails in the sides at every shoeing. When you drive eight nails in the foot, it is in an iron vice, and cannot expand as nature would have it. When you do not sprawl the heels away out to contract the foot, six nails is sufficient and what more do you want. To draw all the inflammation out of his contracted foot you must apply a poultice of linseed meal every night; the same poultice will do three or four times, by wetting with water also apply a mixture of tar, lard and turpentine, equal quantities of each, to the hoof twice a week. To make it grow rapidly the poultice must be mixed up with milk warm water, you may work the horse right along if you want to, and if not, you must keep the poultice on through the day as well. Wash the frog of the foot clean before applying the poultice; have poultice enough to fill up even with the shoe, now draw a rag right up over the foot, and tie around fetlock to keep the poultice in the foot.

PLANK FLOOR.—A horse should never stand on a plank floor with his forward feet; it should be blue clay from a black ash swamp with no sand or gravel in it.

PROJECTING TEETH.—All horses teeth keep growing and wearing away. The under jaw teeth project inward, and as they wear off from masticating the food, they leave sharp corners which frequently lacerate the tongue two and three inches long, and the upper jaw teeth project outward, and mangle the cheek in a similar manner. Take the bone rasp and dress the poor brute immediately. If you cannot do it yourself take him to a farrier, it will only cost you one dollar. Cattle are troubled in the same way but not near so frequently.

COLT SHEDDING THE TEETH.—When a colt is shedding the teeth he should be carefully looked after. Sometimes the old ones hang too long and drive the

new ones crooked. Pull them off with the large forceps.

Ulcerated teeth are not natural to a horse, but if they chew on a nail or something of that kind, and break off the enamel substance, it will decay. Extract immediately.

OVERGROWING TEETH.—My experience has taught me that there is sometimes a tooth that grows faster than any of the rest and the enamel substance of that tooth is so much more durable, that it cuts the opposite tooth all most to pieces. The reason of this I cannot give, but both must be extracted.

WOLF TEETH.—This tooth grows on the nerve that leads directly to the eye sometimes causing horses to go blind. Extract with a pair of forceps from the root.

THE LAMPAS.—More commonly called lampers, take a red hot iron and burn them out. Then you have been guilty of a deed worthy of the penitentiary. Simply take a small knife and slit the bar nearest to the tooth three times between the seams of the bar, and in a few hours it will be all withered away.

How to tell a horses age; first when a colt is half past two he loses four of the nippers or front teeth, two above and two below; half past three he loses four more; half past four he loses four more now he is five that spring. To tell the age further by the cup or groove visible in the end of the teeth. This cup or groove is visible in the end of the under jaw teeth from three to nine, it is half disappeared from the two centre teeth at six, at seven they are level full, at eight the next two are level full, at nine the two corner ones are full, now his teeth in the under jaw are all level full. The two centre teeth in the upper jaw are half full at ten, at eleven entirely, next two at twelve half full, at thirteen entirely full, fourteen half full; fifteen entirely full; from fifteen to twenty-five, the teeth grow narrower and rounder; a horse under fifteen the gum on the upper nippers is square across from fifteen to twenty-five they run up to a sharp point like a pencil sharpened up, this you will never see in a young horse neither will you ever see an old one square, and no bishoping can deceive in this. Bear in mind that when a horse sheds four teeth in front, he sheds eight back, which makes thirty-six teeth in all.

If a horse throws his nose straight out when you are breaking him, you must put a martingale on him from the bit to the belly band, and that will make him hold his head so that his face will stand perpendicular; if his face does not stand perpendicular it will take a great deal of the power of the World's Excelsior extra leverage bit off.

RECIPES.

A sweet blister for man or beast that has received a bruise: Oil of Spikes, Spirits of Turpentine, Camphor Gum, Goose Grease. Equal parts one ounce of each.

For healing sores, Compound Tincture Benzina.

For drawing and healing sores and burns: $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Rosin, 1 pint Turpentine 2 ounces Balsam fur, $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce Oil Origanum, 1 ounce Oil Hemlock, 3 ounce Honey.

Now I will bring my remarks to a close, being fully persuaded that the worth of this book is so great that it cannot be told if you do not vary from its teachings.

YOURS VERY TRULY,

PROFESSOR A. J. MORROW,

Of Bosanquet.